



Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Ministry of Agriculture, Bangladesh

Smallholder Agricultural Competitiveness Project (SACP)

Terms of Reference (TOR)
for
Climate and Environment Specialist
Intermittent/Full Time/Short Term Individual Consultant

Department of Agriculture Extension (DAE)
Bangladesh Agricultural Development Corporation (BADC)
Department of Agricultural Marketing (DAM)
Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute (BARI)
Ministry of Agriculture

1. Background

The Smallholder Agricultural Competitiveness Project (SACP) is financed by International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) which has been engaged in agriculture and rural development for 40 years in Bangladesh, aiming to provide an opportunity for further scaling-up and enhancing some of the best practices and innovations that have proven to be useful climate change adaptation responses, as well as introducing practical methods and technologies in sustainable production enhancement, post-harvest management, value chain development and public-private partnership development. Through a direct partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture, SACP is supporting the Government's strategic master plan of transforming agriculture in Southern Bangladesh.

The SACP project is being implemented in 20 districts covering 90 Upazilas in the Southern and Northern Regions (Coastal Zone, Barind and Drought Prone Areas and River Systems and Estuaries-char) areas of Bangladesh, covering 750 unions selected based on the targeting criteria. The project is implemented by five agencies (DAE, DAM, BADC, BARI and FAO).

Overall objective of SACP

The overall objective of the project is to increase farmer incomes and livelihood resilience through demand-led productivity growth, diversification and marketing in a changing climatic condition; To contribute to the public investment priority of achieving food security, and to promote sustainable, inclusive, climate-resilient, and nutrition-sensitive agriculture in three major climatic hotspots of Bangladesh.

Specific objectives

- a) Enhanced production of High Value Crops (HVC) and technology adoption.
- b) Assessment of HVCs and group mobilization.
- c) Demand-driven production and market-led research
- d) Processing and marketing of HVC.
- e) Improving market linkage
- f) Increasing Post-harvest and processing investments
- g) Development of food safety and nutrition measures along the value chain
- h) Climate Resilient Surface Water Management.
- i) Sustainable surface water management, drainage, conservation and utilization; and
- j) Institutional support for research, extension and capacity building

Project Structure

The project is implemented by four departments of MoA through three technical components supported by a project management component. Component 1-Enhanced production of High Value Crops (HVCs) and technology adoption, is led by the Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE) with support from Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute (BARI). Component 2- Processing and Marketing of HVCs is led by the Department of Agricultural Marketing (DAM), and Component 3-Climate Resilient Surface Water Management is led by the Bangladesh Agriculture Development Corporation (BADC). These four departments together form the project management component supported by technical assistance from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). An additional Component, Diversified Resilient Agriculture for Food and Nutrition Security (RAINS) will be implemented from 2023.

2. Objective of the Assignment

The overall objectives of this assignment are to assist the project management of SACP in the Social, Environmental and Climate Assessment Procedure (SECAP) and Environmental, Social and Climate Management Plan (ESCMP) for successful implementation of the project activities in achieving the objectives as stipulated in the project document.

3. Scope of Services / Duties and Responsibilities:

General Responsibilities: The Climate and Environment Specialist (Consultant) Intermittent/ Full Time/Short Term Individual Consultant will work as a part of the Project Management Unit to lead the implementation of project's Climate and Environment management activities under the supervision of the Project Director. The scope of services/ duties and responsibilities of the consultant are the following:

Responsibilities:

1. Responsible to report to the Project Director (PD)
 - a. Prepare regular monitoring and progress reports to the Donor (IFAD and GAFSP) and the Project Management Unit.
 - b. Study and understand the IFAD SECAP guidelines so as to provide guidance for implementation.
 - c. Preparation of outlines and action plan for implementation of the ESCMP for the project
 - d. Identify potential risks and impacts related to project interventions and advise on mitigation measures or enhancement measures.
 - e. Develop and update monitoring indicators on SECAP and ESCMP.
 - f. Provide guidance and direction to management for ensuring environmental compliance issues with donor (IFAD and GAFSP).
 - g. Preparation of environmental related articles, case studies, newsletters, press release etc.
 - h. Develop and advise on enforcement of environment related guidelines and practices within the project areas.
 - i. Assist in the preparation of Periodic and Annual Report
 - j. Coordinate the activities with implementing agencies.
 - k. Prepare working paper and proceedings of the meetings,
 - l. Coordinate the activities of community mobilization.
 - m. Assists PD in facilitating Implementation Support Missions of development partners (IFAD and GAFSP).
 - n. Provide feedback on Climate and Environmental issues for SACP-RAINS implementing agencies based on the achieved progress, results and lessons learnt.
 - o. Identify Climate and Environment based training needs; develop and implement training and coaching activities of the SACP-RAINS team members.

2. Develop and update climate and environment related frameworks, guidelines (SECAP, ESCMP and Others) and tools related to planning, monitoring, results measurement, evaluation, information and knowledge management as per Donor's (IFAD and GAFSP) and Government of Bangladesh requirements.
 - a. Implement and update Environmental, Social and Climate Management Plan (ESCMP) in line with IFAD's Social, Environmental and Climate Assessment Procedures (SECAP)
 - b. Carry out annual outcome survey, impact study in line with IFAD's Core Outcome Indicator guidelines
 - c. Ensure compliance with the GAFSP reporting requirements as part of the RAINS subcomponent
 - d. Ensure the Feedback and Complain Response Mechanism within the Project is in line with established procedures.
 - e. Design a system for archiving project's documents and reports and ensure it is up to date.
 - f. Perform any other related tasks as assigned by the Project Director.

4. Qualification, Experience and Key Competencies:

(a) Academic qualification:

- The candidate must possess at least a Master's Degree in Agricultural Science or related disciplines from any reputed university.

(b) Work Experience:

-Minimum 10 years working experience

-Minimum 5 years work experience in climate and environment management such as Social, Environmental and Climate Assessment Procedure (SECAP) and coordination of donor funded project.

-Work experience in preparation of Environmental, Social and Climate Management Plan (ESCMP) or similar.

-High level of proficiency in written and spoken English including technical report writing.

-Ability to deliver training sessions, work effectively and collaborative with government officials and diverse range of counterparts and stakeholders with humility and act as a mentor to other component staff and director.

-Willingness to work as a team member with multicultural and multidisciplinary team of experts. Willing to undertake regular and intensive field works.

-Ability to work independently and proceed with objectives of the assignment work under pressure and meet deadlines.

-Self-motivation, willingness to learn and good work ethics.

- Close working experience in rural areas of Bangladesh.

(c) Age:

Not more than 60 years old on the last date of application submission.

6. Duration of Assignment

The duration of the service assignment with the successful applicants will be for a total of 12 months period from March 2024 to 30 June 2026 or as per requirement of the project (Intermittent/Full time/Short term). Service tenure needs to meet the satisfactory performance of the consultant.

7. Institutional Arrangement

The Climate and Environment Specialist (consultant) (Intermittent/full time/Short term) will work at the Project Office (PO) of SACP in Sech Bhaban (5th Floor), 22 Manik Mia Avenue, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207, Bangladesh, and will report directly to the Project Director (PD). The incumbent will work closely with other consultants working at the PO and departmental officials. The consultant is expected to undertake the activities (scope of services) mentioned in the ToR in order to achieve the stated objectives. Under this consultancy services, travels are being envisaged. However, travels necessary for the exigencies of services to achieve the desired objectives, may be undertaken but with prior permission of the PD, PO and in such cases daily subsistence allowance (DSA) as per contract signed and the actual costs for travel will be reimbursed.

8. Tentative Payment Arrangement

The contract will be based on monthly payment and applicable VAT/TAX will be deducted as per rules and regulations of the Government of Bangladesh.